



Week of Aug. 27 – Sept. 3, 2008

## **Risk management keeps people alive**

If you were to believe Hollywood's portrayal of war, you'd come away with the impression that the military loses most of its Airmen, Soldiers, Sailors and Marines in daring dogfights, courageous land assaults or bold battles at sea.

But in truth, on average, the Department of Defense loses more of its men and women to much less noble causes and in far less glamorous ways.

The Air Force has lost nearly an Airman a week to on- and off-duty fatal mishaps during this summer's 101 Critical Days. The majority of these mishaps were in the traffic environment.

Each one of these fallen Airmen left behind a grieving spouse, child, parent, sibling or other loved one to pick up the pieces. That's why each and every one of us must take actions to remain safe during the upcoming Labor Day weekend and look out for the well-being of those around us, as well.

Risk management is a tool we have to assist us in fighting these fall safety hazards. And a risk assessment doesn't take an act of Congress. It can be done on the fly, anywhere, anytime, any place, by anyone. A good wingman will recognize risky behavior and have the courage to speak up.

Simply ask yourself:

- What am I doing?
- What can go wrong?
- Could I hurt myself or someone else?
- What actions can I take to reduce or eliminate the danger?

Enjoy the Labor Day weekend and upcoming fall season, but use the tools available to ensure you and your wingman survive it. That may not sound glamorous or make a good Hollywood movie, but it's still a noble cause.

Find Airman's Roll Call Online Here: <http://www.af.mil/library/viewpoints/>

*Airman's Roll Call is designed for supervisors at all levels to help keep Airmen informed on current issues, clear up confusion, dispel rumors, and provide additional face-to-face communication between supervisors and their teams.*